



STATE OF MICHIGAN
JOCELYN BENSON, SECRETARY OF STATE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
LANSING

April 6, 2020

**FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR NON-INCUMBENT
JUDICIAL CANDIDATES**

*Appeals Court Judge
Circuit Court Judge*

*District Court Judge
Probate Court Judge*

**** IMPORTANT NOTE ****

This document will be revised as changes occur, especially with regard to pending legislation on court reorganization. **Updates** will be posted on the Bureau of Elections' website

Michigan.gov/Elections

ELECTION DATES: The primary election will be held on Tuesday, August 4, 2020. The general election will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 2020.

FILING DEADLINE: Non-incumbent judicial candidates are required to file nonpartisan nominating petitions containing the requisite number of valid signatures, an Affidavit of Identity (two copies) and an Affidavit of Constitutional Qualification (one copy) no later than **4:00 p.m. on April 21, 2020**.

FILING LOCATION: Candidates for Court of Appeals Judge, Circuit Court Judge and District Court Judge file with the Michigan Department of State, Bureau of Elections, P.O. Box 20126, Lansing, MI 48901-0726. Office location: Richard H. Austin Building, 1st Floor, 430 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan 48918. Candidates for Probate Court Judge file with the local county clerk's office.

PETITION FORM: All non-incumbent judicial candidates are required to use the *nonpartisan nominating petition form* prescribed by the Secretary of State when collecting signatures. There are two versions of the form: 1.) A "city/township" version and 2.) a "countywide" version. The "city/township" version of the form is designed for circulation within a single city or township; the "countywide" version of the form can be signed by anyone registered to vote in a city or township that falls within the boundaries of the listed county. All judicial candidates may use the "city/township" nonpartisan nominating petition form or the "countywide" nonpartisan nominating petition form as convenient.

REQUIRED AFFIDAVITS: Non-incumbent candidates who file for the office of Appeals Court Judge, Circuit Court Judge, District Court Judge or Probate Court Judge are required to file an Affidavit of Identity (two copies) and an Affidavit of Constitutional Qualification (one copy). The required affidavits can be obtained from the Michigan Department of State’s Bureau of Elections in Lansing or on the Bureau’s website: Michigan.gov/Elections. A candidate who fails to file the required documents by the filing deadline is ineligible to appear on the ballot.

Michigan election law requires any candidate filing an Affidavit of Identity to state on the form that at the date the affidavit was executed, “all statements, reports, late filing fees, and fines required of the candidate or any candidate committee organized to support the candidate’s election under the Michigan Campaign Finance Act ... have been filed or paid”. All judicial candidates are subject to the Campaign Finance Compliance Statement requirement. This remains true even if the candidate maintains a “Reporting Waiver.” Failure to sign the statement or signing a false statement will result in your disqualification.

AFFIXING OFFICE DESIGNATION ON PETITION: Petitions for a judicial office must bear the appropriate designation listed below to indicate the office sought by the candidate. Note that “incumbent” position means a position held by a judge who is seeking reelection to his or her seat; “non-incumbent” position means a position held by a judge who is not seeking reelection to his or her seat or the position is vacant.

- Regular Term – Incumbent Position
- Regular Term – Non-Incumbent Position
- Partial Term – Incumbent Position*
- Partial Term – Non-Incumbent Position*
- New Judgeship

* Add expiration date of term if more than one partial term will be filled in judicial district. The terms “vacancy,” “partial term” and “unexpired term” are interchangeably used to reference a judicial position which will be filled at an election for less than the full term.

OBTAINING INFORMATION ON APPROPRIATE OFFICE DESIGNATION: Michigan election law stipulates that in instances where a candidate for Court of Appeals Judge, Circuit Court Judge, District Court Judge, or Probate Court Judge seeks election in a district where there are a combination of “new” positions, “incumbent” positions and/or “non-incumbent” positions to fill, the candidate must “apply to the Bureau of Elections for a written statement of office designation to correspond to the judgeship sought by the candidate.” The designations listed in the following charts are provided to fulfill this information requirement. (See *Petition Signature Requirements and Office Designations* below.)

Michigan election law directs the Bureau of Elections to designate a judicial position as an “incumbent” position in any instance where 1.) there is an incumbent judge eligible to seek reelection to the position and 2.) the deadline for filing the Affidavit of Candidacy (March 23, 2020) has not yet elapsed. If the incumbent judge does not file for reelection by the deadline for submitting an Affidavit of Candidacy, the amendment directs the Bureau of Elections to 1.) redesignate the position as a “non-incumbent” position and 2.) notify all candidates seeking

election in the judicial district that a “non-incumbent” position exists. The Law further stipulates that in such instances, 1.) nominating petition sheets circulated for the “non-incumbent” position after the Affidavit of Candidacy filing deadline (March 23, 2020) shall bear an office designation of “non-incumbent” position and 2.) signatures collected prior to the Affidavit of Candidacy filing deadline with “incumbent” office designation may be filed with the “non-incumbent” nominating petitions. The Affidavit of Candidacy filing deadline established for the August 4, 2020 primary elapses at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 2020.

WITHDRAWAL DEADLINE: Judicial candidates who file for the August 4, 2020 primary ballot with a petition who wish to withdraw from the election must submit a written notice of withdrawal to the filing official no later than **5:00 p.m. on April 24, 2020.**

SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS: The petition signature requirements imposed on candidates who seek the office of Appeals Court Judge, Circuit Court Judge, District Court Judge and Probate Court Judge are listed below (MCL 168.544f). The Bureau of Elections has made every effort to ensure that the signature requirements listed below are correct. If a conflict exists between this memorandum and MCL 168.544f, the statute controls.

- - Petition Signature Requirements and Office Designations - -

JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS

District	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
1	6,200	12,000	3 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
2	6,200	12,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
3	6,200	12,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
3	6,200	12,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
4	6,200	12,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
4	6,200	12,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027

JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

Circuit	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
1	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹⁵	2027
2	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
2	600	1,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
3	4,000	8,000	15 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
3	4,000	8,000	2 Regular Terms	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
3	4,000	8,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent ²¹	2023
4	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027

Circuit	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
5	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
6	4,000	8,000	6 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
6	4,000	8,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
6	4,000	8,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2025
7	1,000	2,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent ⁹	2027
7	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
8	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
9	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
10	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
11	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
12	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
13	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
14	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
15	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
16	2,000	4,000	4 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
17	2,000	4,000	3 Regular Terms	Non-Incumbent ¹⁶	2027
18	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
19	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
20	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
21	200	400	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
22	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
22	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
24	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
25	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
26	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent ⁷	2027
28	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
29	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
30	1,000	2,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
30	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹⁷	2027
30	1,000	2,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent ⁸	2025
31	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
32	40	100	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
33	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
35	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
36	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
37	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
38	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027

Circuit	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
39	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
40	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
41	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
42	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
44	600	1,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
46	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
48	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
49	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
51	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
52	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
53	100	200	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
55	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
56	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027

JUDGE OF THE DISTRICT COURT

District	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
1	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
2A	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
2B	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹⁸	2027
3A	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
3B	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
4	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
5	600	1,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
7	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
8	1,000	2,000	3 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
10	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
10	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
10	600	1,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
12	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
12	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
14A	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
14B	200	400	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
15	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
16	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027

District	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
17	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
18	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
19	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
20	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
21	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
23	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
24	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
25	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
28	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
29	40	100	1 Partial Term	Non-Incumbent ⁶	2025
31	40	100	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
32A	40	100	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
33	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
34	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
35	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
36	2,000	4,000	9 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
36	2,000	4,000	2 Partial Terms	Incumbent	2023
37	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
38	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹⁹	2027
39	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
39	200	400	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
40	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
41A	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
41B	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
42-1	200	400	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
43	200	400	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹³	2027
45	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
46	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
47	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
48	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
50	200	400	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
51	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
52 Div. 1	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
52 Div. 2	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
52 Div. 3	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
52 Div. 4	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
53	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027

District	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
53	600	1,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
54A	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
54A	600	1,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
55	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹⁴	2027
56A	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
57	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
58	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
58	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
60	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
60	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
61	600	1,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
61	600	1,000	1 Partial Term	Incumbent	2023
62A	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
62B	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
63	1,000	2,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent ³	2027
64A	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
64B	200	400	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
65A	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
65B	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
67 Div. 1	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
67 Div. 2	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
67 Div. 2	400	800	1 Partial Term	Non-Incumbent ¹⁰	2023
67 Div. 3	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
67 Div. 4	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
67 Div. 5	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
67 Div. 5	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹	2027
70 Div. 2	600	1,000	2 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027
71A	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
71B	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
72	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent ¹¹	2027
74	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
75	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
76	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
77	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
78	400	800	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
79	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ²⁰	2027
80	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027

District	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
82	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
84	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
89	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
90	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent ⁵	2027
92	40	100	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
93	40	100	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
94	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
95A	40	100	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
95B	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
96	200	400	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
97	100	200	1 Regular Term	Non-Incumbent ¹²	2027

JUDGE OF THE PROBATE COURT

Probate	Min. Sig. Required	Max. Sig. Required	<u>Number To Be Elected</u>		Term Ending January 1, of
			Term	Designation	
Berrien	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Chippewa	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Genesee	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Huron	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Ingham	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Kalamazoo	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Kent	2,000	4,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Macomb	2,000	4,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Monroe	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Oakland	4,000	8,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Saginaw	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
St. Clair	600	1,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Sanilac	100	200	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Washtenaw	1,000	2,000	1 Regular Term	Incumbent	2027
Wayne	4,000	8,000	3 Regular Terms	Incumbent	2027

¹Judge is scheduled to retire at the end of the term due to age.

²Position is vacant.

³Candidate with highest vote will be an 8-year term.

⁴MCL 600.8144 eliminates 79th District Court, however pending legislation has been introduced to not eliminate court.

⁵Governor made an appointment effective February 17, 2020.

⁶Position is vacant effective March 1, 2020.

⁷Governor made an appointment effective March 2, 2020.

⁸Governor made an appointment effective March 2, 2020.

⁹Governor made an appointment effective March 5, 2020.

¹⁰Position is vacant effective March 5, 2020.

¹¹Governor made an appointment effective March 13, 2020.

¹²Position is vacant effective March 15, 2020.

¹³Position is vacant effective March 19, 2020.

¹⁴Position is vacant effective March 19, 2020.

¹⁵Incumbent judge did not seek re-election.

¹⁶Incumbent judge did not seek re-election.

¹⁷Incumbent judge did not seek re-election.

¹⁸Incumbent judge did not seek re-election.

¹⁹Incumbent judge did not seek re-election.

²⁰PA 82 of 2020 Restores District Court effective April 2, 2020.

²¹Governor made an appointment effective April 6, 2020.